Development of Buckingham Canal

1573. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to declare the Buckingham Canal from Kakinada to Marakkanam a National Waterway;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government are considering to develop the said proposed National Waterway at a cost of Rs. 651 crores for cargo movement; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir. A proposal to declare Kakinada-Marakkanam-Pondicherry canal stretch along with Bhadrachalam-Rajamundhry stretch of Godavari river and Wazirabad-Vijaywada stretch of Krishna river totaling 1095 km as a National Waterway is under consideration.

(b) and (c) The cost estimates have not yet been firmed up.

Road proposals of Madhya Pradesh

†1574. SHRI LAXMINARAYAN SHARMA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Madhya Pradesh has sent the proposals for approval of Rupees 481.95 crore for constructing 1379 kilometers of roads on 240 routes for the development of 89 adivasi blocks;

(b) if so, the action being taken by the Central Government on the said proposal;

(c) by when sanction would be accorded to the proposal;

(d) whether there are obstacles in according the sanction; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.